



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Director of Health Services

At its meeting held April 12, 2005, the Board took the following action:

61-A

Supervisor Yaroslavsky offered a motion that the Director of Health Services report back to the Board on or before May 10, 2005 on the following issues regarding Martin Luther King, Jr./Drew Medical Center (KDMC):

- Is the current pace of reform at KDMC satisfactory?
- What objective criteria would constitute an acceptable pace of reform at KDMC?
- How long is it prudent to wait until these criteria are met while pursuing the County's current strategy at KDMC, including reforming and restructuring the hospital while continuing to operate it in its current configuration?; and
- Development of alternatives to the current strategy to ensure that the clientele of KDMC receive competent and quality emergency and hospital care.

Dr. Thomas L. Garthwaite, Director of Health Services, responded to questions posed by the Board.

During discussion, Supervisor Molina made a suggestion that Supervisor Yaroslavsky's motion be amended to instruct the Director of Health Services to provide a more "hands on" approach in managing issues and meeting necessary criteria within King/Drew Medical Center by setting up an office within the hospital.

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Lark Galloway-Gilliam representing Community Health Councils, Jim Lott, M.D., Vice President, Hospital Association Southern California, Bart Harper Williams, Esq., Dr. Patrick T. Dowling, Harry E. Douglas, III, Alejandro Mayorkas and Richard A. Veloz, Members, Board of Trustees, Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science, Kathy Ochoa representing SEIU Local 660, and other interested persons also addressed the Board.

After discussion, Supervisor Burke made a suggestion that Supervisor Yaroslavsky's motion be amended to instruct the Director of Health Services to work in collaboration with the Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science and Navigant Consulting, Inc. to develop and implement a plan that includes specific goals and time tables to address issues related to resident oversight and supervision that will ensure that medical services are provided consistent with community standards of care. Supervisor Yaroslavsky accepted Supervisor Burke's amendment.

Supervisor Molina made the following statement:

"Jim Lott of the Hospital Association of Southern California presented three recommendations from other hospital leaders for getting King/Drew Medical Center back on track. These ideas require attending physicians to be present for all invasive procedures, bring in hospitalist or intensivist physicians to provide ICU care, and have independent nurses walk the hospital to ensure nursing staff are complying with community standards of care and provide a common sense approach to making improvements in the delivery of care at that hospital."

Therefore, Supervisor Molina made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, to amend Supervisor Yaroslavsky's motion to instruct the Director of Health Services to:

1. Require that attending physicians be present for all invasive surgical procedures;
2. Employ hospitalist or intensivist physicians to provide care 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to the Intensive Care Unit;
3. Hire independent nurses to walk through King/Drew Medical Center 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to ensure that nursing staff is complying with the appropriate community standards of care, and providing a common sense approach to making improvements in the delivery of care at the hospital; and

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61-A (Continued)

4. Report back to the Board at the meeting of April 19, 2005, on the plan for implementation of the aforementioned recommendations to allow for implementation within 48 hours of Board approval.

Further, Supervisor Molina made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, to amend Supervisor Yaroslavsky's motion to instruct the Executive Officer of the Board to place on the Board's weekly agenda, as a set matter, a written and oral report from the Director of Health Services and Navigant on the status of reform at King/Drew Medical Center which should focus on:

1. Quality of care issues and identifying the progress of improvement;
2. Identifying the actual outcomes that have been improved;
3. Identifying any delays in scheduled implementation, and those changes that have been completed; and
4. Any new problems that have emerged should be identified, with the plan of action to resolve them.

Supervisor Yaroslavsky accepted Supervisor Molina's amendments.

Supervisor Yaroslavsky's motion, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, as amended by Supervisors Burke and Molina, was unanimously carried.

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